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May 13 - May 20, 2010 #1363 | www.citypaper.net

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SAT MAY 22



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MAY 26

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MAY 27



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- [0] Somebody stuck a knife in Angelo Calabro's caricature on the wall of the Palm. Should have been a little. [Bloomberg.com](#)

This week's total: 13 | Last week's total: 35



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"With your help on May 18th, I'll fight to create the **new jobs** we need and to bring **real reform** to Harrisburg."—*Dan Onorato*

As Allegheny County Executive, Dan Onorato has made a career of fighting for us, not the status quo.

As Governor, Dan will work to:

- Make Pennsylvania a leader in the new economy by creating the jobs of the future, and by supporting programs to help small businesses succeed and grow.
- Reform the State Legislature so it is more ethical and accountable.
- Improve education by advocating for more access to quality early childhood education, improving our schools and making college more affordable.
- Keep taxes low as he did in Allegheny County, and fix our broken property tax system.
- Promote policies that encourage energy efficiency while protecting our environment.



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VOTE!

Listen to Election Kitty.
She won't steer you wrong.

If you've haven't caught the ubiquitous advertisements on prime-time television in recent weeks, May 18 is election day in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. And yet, you should vote, democrats or don't function well in the absence of an engaged citizenry. But we get it: We're not like us. We get paid to care about elections and politics. You have more important things to worry about — paying the rent, for instance.

We understand, and we're here to help. We've spent the last few months studying the politicians — reading their press releases and position papers, following their Twitter wires, examining their financial reports, reporting the powerful wheel from their — and issues that will impact this city and this state in the years to come. So, in the pages that follow, you'll find some recommendations to help you navigate Tuesday's ballot. A quick note: We have neither the space nor inclination to be comprehensive. Instead, we're focusing on the big ones — governor, U.S. Senate, U.S. House and the four citywide referendums. And because this is Philadelphia — where there are, what, 11 Republicans — we'll focus on the Democrats. (The Republican race are uninteresting, anyway. Congressional candidate Tom Corbett, Senate against Pat Toomey and U.S. Rep. Jay Byrnes have their party's nominations all but locked down.)

Here's how it worked: The City Paper editorial board — Publisher Paul Carey, Editor in Chief Brian Howard, Senior Editor Patrick Rapa, News Editor Jeffrey C. Berman, and staff writers Ianish Thompson and Holly Overton — involved candidates down to our Old City offices for an interview. All but U.S. Sen. Arlen Specter accepted. (You can listen to those interviews at citypaper.net.) And, after a period of study and introspection, the editorial board members gathered at a local watering hole, had a few beers, argued what, came to a more or less and finally reached a consensus. And then — though no one exactly remembers how or why — we created a mascot, Election Kitty. Listen to her.

But these election packages aren't just about talking you how to vote. We also dig into campaign finance reports (p. 28), a movement to encourage more Keystone women to run for office (p. 12), under-the-radar legislative races (p. 14) and the, um, more eccentric candidates seeking the positions they have almost as chance of winning (p. 16).

Let's get started, shall we?

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PHOTOS BY NEAL SANTOS • COLLAGE BY EVAN M. LOPEZ

VOTE

VOTE FOR DAN ONORATO

The best of a good bunch for governor.



Possibly most Democrats, you have a decision to make. All four candidates for governor bring to bear considerable individual strengths and charms, yet none is what you'd consider a household name.

The leading Democrat, according to polls, is Allegheny County Executive Dan Onorato, a man not all that different from the man he hopes to succeed, Gov. Ed Rendell (That is, for the record, a plan and action.) But even a week out from primary day, these same polls show a high percentage of undecideds. Onorato is the favorite, but the ball game starts over Auditor General Jack Wagner, running on his fairly limited, almost encyclopedic knowledge of the state budget, previous confidence. Montgomery County Executive Joe Hoeffel, the city's outspoken liberal, hopes to ride his progressive positions on social issues and taxation to Harrisburg. State Sen. Anthony Williams, who has the support of the Philadelphia Democratic City Committee and Mayor Michael Nutter, has benefited from a well-financed ad campaign. Despite his late entry into the race, in February, both his qualities we would like to see in the state's next governor and indeed, if we could segment a sort of Voters from the fear of them — Hoeffel's fiscal conservatism, Williams' grasp of urban issues, Wagner's wealth of skills, Onorato's record of executive leadership, considerable self-motivation and charisma — we would. Also, that is not an option.

By the process of elimination, then, City Paper endorses Dan Onorato for governor.

While we endorse Williams' advocacy on behalf of inner-city and inner-city schools, we find his reliance on vouchers as a solution somewhat naive. More importantly, we find some support of his campaign particularly distasteful. It has been funded heavily by three Bala Cynwyd investment-fund managers who, Williams says, support his stand on school choice and then give him \$1.5 million. Asked about this, Williams is almost dismissive of the consequences of deep-pocketed interests backing a campaign. Is it state or which legislators are frequently hit with corruption charges, that black attitude does not bode well.

While ideologically, we share many of Hoeffel's views, particularly on social and taxation issues — the state's record on gay rights is particularly embarrassing, and its tax structure needs fundamental change — as well as his position on drilling on the Marcellus Shale (he backs a high severance tax and a moratorium on drilling on state forest land, and pledges not to take gas money), we doubt Hoeffel's ability to make these changes happen if he were in November. Hoeffel can come off a bit too professorial — like that smart, engaging middle-school teacher whom

everyone loved but no one feared on high school — and lacking the resources to implement necessary to lead the Capitol's ever-dwindling and hostile cuts, no matter his good intentions.

If Hoeffel is the beloved but unfocused teacher, Wagner is the economics instructor whose classroom turned into a syllabus war whenever his back was turned. A nice guy to be sure. But he is, at times, seen a substitute for Aetna. His two technicians who speak like an accountant, that is, his knowledge of how the state spends (and wastes) money is second to none. His proposed constitutional convention is long overdue. His plans for slowing the size of the legislature, getting rid of single-bill amendments and creating a scholarship program to make college more accessible for high school students, funded with tobacco-proceeds money, are vital to the state's future. If everyone listened to his ideas, this state would be much better off. But does he have the political will to make Harrisburg listen? As with Hoeffel, we're not convinced.

By contrast, Dan Onorato's persona oozes vigor and confidence — in a word, leadership. Onorato was down in the trenches, overseeing Pittsburgh's remarkable resurgence. Certainly, Onorato will do more credit than he deserves. But the fact is, Pittsburgh is no longer teetering on the edge. It has a better unemployment rate than both the nation and the state. Last month, Forbes declared Pittsburgh the country's most livable city. On the big screen, there's not much to dislike in Onorato and his fellow Democrats. He pledges to push for LGBTQ non-discrimination laws and to slow local government to regulate businesses. He promises not to mess with the state's election laws, though he is personally anti-abortion. He proposes a moratorium on leaving state forest land for drilling, and plans to use the severance tax to re-fund the Department of Environmental Protection.

His line on spending — of all state programs, everything is potentially on the chopping block except early-childhood education and a core study of the state's education system — gives us pause, but his insistence on keeping education and access to the state's property assessment system intact, as Onorato strives to be an pragmatist and a problem-solver, with the promise to keep a dysfunctional legislature in check. He would do well to listen to his competitors' ideas — particularly Wagner and Hoeffel — but at the end of the day he's the best choice for Keystone Democrats.

(Editorial@citypaper.net)



ELECTION KITTY ENDORSED



MONEY TALKING

Who's buying the candidates for governor?

Money talks—and big money talks loud—in Pennsylvania. Our state is one of only 12 with no limits on individual campaign contributions. Some companies can even be Political Action Committees to funnel money to politicians; there's effectively no limit on corporate contributions, a clear

All of the gubernatorial candidates have taken big checks, but there are differences—in how much, how much and from what sources.

■ JOE HOSFEL | CONTRIBUTIONS (2005 NOW) \$17,347,346, AVERAGE DONATION \$472, CONTRIBUTIONS OF \$10,000 OR MORE: 8

President Obama used small donations to win his seat Montgomery County Commissioner Joe Hoefel is also raising small donations—but less effectively. He's received \$12,776 in donations of less than \$60 as of the most recent financial disclosure. Companies don't like to donate. Sen. Anthony Williams, who received \$9 in donations of less than \$50 in the same period, had raised more than four times as much money as Hoefel. Though Hoefel says he's the only true blue-collar in the race, some of his biggest donors also aren't in Appalachia. Hershaan #12 LP, which has historically devoted to energy firms, gave Hoefel \$35,000. Sam Steiner, who gave Anthony General Tom Corbett \$22,000, donated \$10,000 to Hoefel's campaign. If elected, keep an eye on how Hoefel grapples with transportation, infrastructure and pension issues. Rather low firm Bannockburn

Kramer Melcher & Clark borrowed Hoefel with \$13,000, their clients include Pennsylvania pension and the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission.

■ ANTHONY WILLIAMS | CONTRIBUTIONS (2005 NOW) \$4.2 MILLION, AVERAGE DONATION \$37,271, CONTRIBUTIONS OF \$10,000 OR MORE: 22

State Sen. Anthony Williams suddenly becomes as mean as a freshly cut wire when asked if the supportive contribution limits "No, I'm not for that." He wonders if the \$4 million he's raised, at least \$2.5 million came from PACs funded by a trio of managing directors at a single Bala Cynwyd investment firm. A few other big donors include Paul T. Jones, the billionaire CEO of hedge fund Tudor Investment Corp., who gave Williams \$75,000, and the pro-energy Local 98 IBEW Committee on Political Education, which gave Williams' Senate campaign \$105,000. Let's say that his Senate and gubernatorial campaigns are separate, Williams transferred \$100,000 of his \$104,855 in Senate contributions into his gubernatorial effort.

■ TOM CORBETT | CONTRIBUTIONS (2005 NOW) \$4 MILLION, AVERAGE DONATION \$1,365, CONTRIBUTIONS OF \$10,000 OR MORE: 134

Oil, natural gas and coal companies have found a beacon in Anthony General Tom Corbett. The president of Resolute Mining Co. gave him \$57,658, and the CEO of Bradford Energy Co. gave him \$52,407. Perhaps it has something to do with his stance on the Marcellus

Shale. He's opposed to a severance tax and believes the Department of Environmental Protection should "understand that business is not the adversary."

■ DAN ONORATO | CONTRIBUTIONS (2005 NOW) \$8.4 MILLION, AVERAGE DONATION \$1,222, CONTRIBUTIONS OF \$10,000 OR MORE: 195

There's no doubt about it: Allegheny County Executive Onorato is far ahead of his Democratic competitors in fundraising—suggesting that the person that he has picked they champion. He's received more individual donations over \$10,000 than all candidates but Corbett. Though Onorato's stance on gas drilling doesn't differ much from his competitors, he is the only Democrat to receive substantial donations from that industry.

■ JACK WAGNER | CONTRIBUTIONS (2005 NOW) \$10,341, AVERAGE DONATION \$1,570, CONTRIBUTIONS OF \$10,000 OR MORE: 14

Allegheny General Jack Wagner isn't from Hoefel in fundraising, but he has nearly twice as many \$10,000-plus donations as Hoefel, and half as many million-dollar. The former Pittsburgh businessman clearly has a base of support at home, and several top donors—like home Proak Fisher, a g— are from Pittsburgh. Oddly none of Wagner's top contributors—like cigar manufacturer John Middlebrooks—have donated more, lots more, to Corbett's campaign.

—Heidi Otterbein and Justin Thompson
(enr.com/06typenarr)

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RUN, LADIES, RUN

Toward a more chromosomally diverse Harrisburg

Ketter Manderson has little reason to believe that, in the next 17 years, the number of women elected to office in Pennsylvania will be much higher than it is currently. That outlook may seem odd—even anachronistic—to the age of Hillary Clinton and Sarah Palin. But Manderson, a Democratic state representative whose district includes parts of Philadelphia and Montgomery counties, is simply referencing a well-established name throughout the state.

"Today 37 of the 203 state representatives are women," she explains. That means 13 percent of Pennsylvania's state reps are female, only six states in the country have a lower proportion of women in their state legislatures than that. What's worse, says Manderson, is when she was first elected 17 years ago, the numbers weren't too dissimilar: Twenty-one women were in the state House.

With the help of the Philadelphia chapter of the National Organization of Women (NOW), an organization called She Should Run is hoping to make one state and city government more chromosomally diverse. But is that goal viable, especially when a progressive Democrat like the She Should Run—or the Political Party Project and Progressive Majority—have already tried to make that happen, to practically no avail?

At the very least, it'll be an uphill battle. In Pennsylvania, a woman has never been elected governor; only two of the state's 21 members of Congress are female, and not a single woman in the state legislature holds a leadership position. All of that makes

Pennsylvania the one of the most male-dominated states in the country, according to *She Should Run* founder Sarah Ann "Sara" Bennett. Philadelphia, meanwhile, has never elected a woman as mayor, in contrast to Baltimore, Atlanta, Tampa and 203 other major cities with female mayors in 2009.

There are lots of theories about why this may be, ranging from the argument that men cling tightly to their seats as legislators as well paid as Pennsylvania, to the simple idea that this is a very traditional state. *She Should Run* confronts the problem from a grassroots empowerment angle. In her book *It Takes a Candidate: Why Women Don't Run for Office* (Cambridge University Press, 2006), author Jennifer Lawless points that women's lack equal political representation isn't simply because party committees, colleagues and friends don't ask them to run for office as often as men. Additionally, a woman won't look ahead until she's been propositioned an average of four times.

Bennett launched the organization in response to these clear-cut findings: giving it a similarly straightforward media strategy. Ask many women to run, many know "If you go out on the street and ask guys to run for an open seat/ward seat, research shows they'll probably say 'Sure, why not?' even if they're completely unqualified," says Bennett. "Ask an overqualified woman the same thing, and she'll say 'No, I don't have the experience.'"

Philadelphia NOW voted to adopt the *She Should Run* method in early May, making it the first organization in Philadelphia to do so. Being the late to the game, however, means *She Should Run* can't affect the local results of either the May 19 primary or November's general election. But not late, it might.

—Holly Otterbein
(holly.otterbein@citypaper.net)

VOTE FOR JOE SESTAK

It's time for Arlen Specter to go

■ WE SYMPATHIZE WITH Arlen Specter After 30 years of faithful service—including President Bush's Iraq war, of campaigning for Barack Obama, of supporting Steve Pickett's Election, of going to the mat for Clarence Thomas—his increasingly right-wing Republican Party didn't want him anymore. Respectably gives a nod that it was Specter's support for the stimulus bill that sealed his fate within the GOP. There has never been a year ago, Specter has been a good soldier for his new Democrats. Party leadership has even bill, pushing for gay rights. He's courted the party's progressive base well.

But it's not enough to earn our cash reward. That simply Specter's willingness to change his stripes as broadly for the sake of his own political survival doesn't inspire a lot of faith in what he'll do after the primary. And Specter has proven himself all too willing to roll in the mud with his attack on opponent Joe Sestak's Navy record. Or, of the worst that Specter can come up with is that Sestak rode his side arm into the band, we can live with that.)

We're not entirely smitten with Sestak. The retired Navy admiral certainly has the credentials and scars—three decades in the uniform, masters and destroyers degrees from Harvard—to do the job, but we're less than enthused with his campaign, which has, until the last few weeks, seemed a bit hollow. His bombast and intonation and speechifying is annoying, but in the grand scheme of things, a forgivable offense.

Sestak is the better Democrat. For the last four years, he's been a solid progressive voice in Congress, and his military and intelligence experience would serve the Senate well. He deserves your support on Tuesday.

(ed@edward@citypaper.net)



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THE REP SCHLEP

Your primer on state House races to watch.

Look, we don't blame you for unplugging the alarm when it comes to the races for the state House of Representatives and Senate. The broken link, along with the governor, make up what everyone of every political persuasion calls our comprehensive set of they say it — *Humburg*. The shark tank, as our legislator describes it, is a place of cut-throat partisan politicking and behind-the-scenes legislative bribery, where money, power, clout and favors are often the preferred currency of trade, where Mr. Shark gets looked at the next month before the vote.

But shark tank though it may be, what is going there matters. Luckily for you, Committee of Beverly, Philadelphia's nonprofit political watchdog, is on the job. Their website (www.wakeupandvote.org) features guides telling you what district you're in, what running to represent it, and a page describing some of the more interesting races in the Philadelphia area. Here, in brief, is some of the pay-off stuff from local state House races (Thanks to Beverly's Leah Polinsky for taking us through it.)

■ **DISTRICT 172 (NORTHWEST PHILLY)** This government-adjacent district has been represented by Rep. John Funch — who has been charged with theft for running a one-person machine with public money — for three decades. Three Democrats seek. Republicans see opportunity in disunity, including Republican Joseph Gaspari and, among the Dems, two former City Councilors, Tim Keaney and Kevin Boyle, and a school teacher, Dan Collins.

■ **DISTRICT 180 (JANNEY NORTH PHILLY, KENSINGTON)** *Letace* represents this in the state House currently occupies the single person as a single seat. Five-term Rep. Angel Cruz, who now faces a primary challenge from Jonathan Roman, aka *Letace Roman*, a former Moore and public community relations officer, and managed to get 45 percent of the vote the last time he challenged Cruz, so this should be a good one.

■ **DISTRICT 182 (MILLA VISTA, GAYBOROUGH)** This race might not make the most-watched list — incumbent *Ballistic Joseph* has been there for 25 years — except that Joseph has accused opponent Gregg Kozlowski of pretending to be innocent.

■ **DISTRICT 195 (BELLMONT PLATEAU, HANNAH)** This is a Philly story. Freshman incumbent Vanessa Lewers Brown has two challengers from old-time Philly political families. Skard Street, son of former Mayor John Street, and Jeffrey Blackwell Wilson, stepdaughter of Councilwoman Anne Blackwell. Her father's Blackwell is supporting Skard. Don't ask.

■ **DISTRICT 195 (FAIRMOUNT, SPRING GARDEN, NORTH PHILLY)** This second open seat has belonged for many, many years — 27, to be exact — to legislator Frank Glover, who announced his retirement suddenly in February. Candidates entered it, but sleeping, and Glover staffer turned candidate Michelle Brownlee was able to knock off but one opponent off the ballot: Anthony Ingraham, a former staffer to Rendell and Councilman Rick Mariani, and a former analyst for the Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority.

—Josh Thompson

(Josh.Thompson@citypaper.net)

VOTE FOR MANAN TRIVEDI

A shining star for the U.S. House.

■ **OF ALL THE** candidates we interviewed during this process, none impressed us quite as much as Manan Trivedi, a candidate for Congress from the 9th District, which stretches from the Main Line to City Lane and out into Berks County (There were no convenient premises in the 1st and 2nd districts, which lie in Philadelphia proper.) If he wanted to run for Senate or governor, we'd be excited to have him. As it is, Democrats in the 9th are fortunate to have a chance to vote for him.

Trivedi, who served as the head doctor of a military hospital in Iraq and who is now a primary-care physician, has a master's degree in public policy from UCLA and worked as a health-care reform on President Obama's presidential campaign. He speaks fluently and thoughtfully on issues related to both foreign policy and health care — when prompted, he gave a thorough and informed dissertation on post-traumatic stress disorder policy — who believes in soft power and argues that there is plenty of room in the Defense Department budget to cut. He supports the health care law that passed this year, but doesn't really see a public option to bring down costs. He is strongly smart on jobs and energy policies.

The opponent, Doug Pike — a former *Inquirer* editorial board member, staffer for the late Sen. Pat Toomey and hospital board chairman — boasts highly respectable credentials, as well. And he and Trivedi agree more than they disagree on policy issues. But Pike strikes us as more of a backslap Democrat — one who would blend into the Democratic caucus, rather than stand out — thus, due the exceptional Trivedi, who, not for nothing, would become the only American of Indian descent in Congress, and just the fourth ever, if he wins in November.

We strongly endorse Trivedi in this race.

(Josh.Thompson@citypaper.net)



ILLUSTRATION BY MICKIE ROSE



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What Is Your Risk of Disease?

The University of Pennsylvania is recruiting volunteers for the Triumphant Living Collaborative Program. This research study is an opportunity for African American men and women to learn about the impact of health behaviors on disease risk.

If you are age 18 or older and live in Philadelphia, call to learn more about the study and to find out if you are eligible.

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Penn Medicine

Navigate Your Health

This research program is designed to assist African American residents in Philadelphia in getting screening for breast, colon, and prostate cancer.

If interested in learning more about or participating in this research program, please call

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Penn Medicine



THE ALSO-RANS

Meet some of the candidates who (probably) won't win.

The thing about running for office is, almost anyone can do it. Of course, not everyone does it well, but getting your name on a ballot is not terribly difficult. For statewide and congressional races in Pennsylvania, making the primary ballot means paying \$150 or \$300, depending on the race, and gathering either 1,600 or 2,800 sworn voters from registered voters of the party whose candidate you are seeking.

Consequently a lot of people do it. But not all of them make it to the election. For instance, as the Democratic U.S. Senate primary Joe Sestak announced to third-world-Joe-Vel-Velvet hosted from the ballot after election officials ruled some of his signatures illegitimate.

Over in the GOP column, Senate candidate Pat Toomey—who at the beginning of this election cycle was the right-wing megastar trying to take down Specter—learned there's right-wing megastars in self-abortion activist (and those state candidates for governor) Peg LaRocca, who believes that government is bad because, "Government-ordered abortions are hostile to belief in God, since they don't want to acknowledge an authority higher than the state," according to her website.

But unlike the Toomey-Specter GOP primary of 2004, there's not all that much distance between her and Toomey. He's anti-gay, too, and—horrors!—he supports exceptions for rape, incest or the life of the mother, she does not, and pro-gun, God and teachers, just like her. She can't out The Party line, so she's going somewhere. But the far-right cadre of voters might not continue her

in the more generic race for GOP lieutenant governor, again with no real reason other than standing by in case the governor drops dead. Bucks County Commissioner Joe Cray has the right party's backing, which probably means he'll win, but who knows. State Rep. David Mikulski made a stab at the recent vote but took with his proposal for an anti-immigration law to rival Arizona's. Lancaster County Commissioner Stephen A. Uffner, whose website does not list any scheduled events, is the only other elected official of the race.

Among the others, The Party's newest Bill McCone wants to crack down on earning houses after what he describes as "poor treatment" led to his mother's death. John Kennedy (real name), a Pennsylvania state representative in the 1980s, wants to make the legislature part-time and lower corporate and payroll taxes. Chet Butler, owner of Amish Country Gardens in Lancaster, wants taxpayer anti-spending, pro-God laws. Jesse, Craigie Pappier thinks you should vote for her, in part simply because she has a vagina.

There have been two favorites—the guys with their own music videos. Steve Johnson, who owns a building inspection company in central Pennsylvania, has a country song on his website (telephone: 800-610-6062) that, among a backdrop of old white people and flags, declares him the "Voice of the People." But he is far outdone by candidate Steve Diamond, who writes, played guitar and sang on "We Are Free" (musical.com), and "Piss old widow Jackson, she's been living on a f---! Blasted up all her children while her husband worked the levees! She had to choose between the bills and a decent meal to eat! Until the tax man came and took her house and locked her to the street!"

—Jeffrey C. Hillman
(jeffrey.hillman@thepaper.net)

MAYBE, WHY NOT?, OH GOD YES, SURE

How to vote on the city referendums.

■ **QUESTION 1:** Should the city council be given power to annex companies who do business with the city have plans to close a defense work force, and be approved those who do not follow through?

Two things to consider: Ensuring that companies have equal opportunities in an all-around good, Central already has more than 100,000 jobs, budget approved to reach this end. Play a role.

■ **QUESTION 2:** Should the city member Young Board of Adjustment be decreased to five?

This would designate the current staff member (LBI council) as an alternate who can sit in for an absent member, making a question more likely and postponed decisions less likely. No harm in that.

■ **QUESTION 3:** The biggest. Should the Board of Revision of Taxes be abolished, and its powers be assigned to two new entities?

If you haven't already, it's up to phyllophorus and avoid Mark Pustulak and Joseph Telford's mounting investigation of the BRT—an object lesson in the use of municipal political patronage. The BRT is charged with assessing all the city's land properties. Taxes values determine property taxes. Property taxes fund the school district. It has huge municipal duty.

As the inquiry section revealed, the BRT was doing a big thing today. The agency had become a kind of political firestorm, with lawmakers, state out, regulations imposed and the public trust horrendously damaged. Yes, yes, vote to abolish the BRT. There have 10 questions to the four corners of the map.

■ **QUESTION 4:** Should the city borrow \$45.5 million for capital improvements for transit, parks, community development and the schools?

Capital improvements mean jobs, and here, what's another \$45 million when you're already a billion-dollar city?

(ed@thepaper.net)



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PRETTY WOMEN



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✶ **AS A CHILD** Iqbal Hussain knew how his mother and father earned a living. Various generations of women had been courtesans of Pakistan's Mughals of Punjab, but political upheaval reduced them to common-sweatworkers. As a result, the artist — a transsexual one of her native country's poorest regions — knows as he hangs in the marketplace and a street corner of the ancient red-light district in Lahore where he grew up. Though not explicitly sexual, the religious-symbols allusions have a timeless resonance so obvious that they might be taken to be women's second persons.

At first glance, Kuznetsov's paintings are not particularly challenging to American eyes. But from more insightful viewpoints, the grain of women he depicts become more poignant, more intimate: Non-nurtured eyes are stark and livid with pain. Small, graceful gestures of the hands suggest at least a glimmer and sensitivity unvoiced in a cold world of men.

Russian's solo show at Twelve Gates Gallery also includes two delicate calligraphic landscapes of the Rour River. He will be in Philadelphia this Saturday at 7 p.m. to sign copies of *The Painter of Impassioned Souls*, a biographical consideration of his work by noted art critic Winston Huxson.

With art-savvy cousins, Twiney-Garcia brings something new and significant to Philadelphia Gallery director Aude Khan and her husband, Art Smith, moved here from New Jersey. Choosing Philadelphia as a city/country "need" of contemporary South Asian art. "We changed everything in our lives to open this gallery," says Khan, who invites the year-old Twiney-Garcia to see more than a showcase for artists of the Indian and Pakistani diaspora. With music, performance and lively dialogue, she hopes her gallery will become a center for South Asian culture. 7,000 miles away.

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ROBIN CLIVER played
Grease's Riker Hinkle, all
sour grins and rough
charm, unlike other, more
casual Robins.



Estimados resultados:

IN THE HOOD

Ridley Scott's *Robin Hood* is like none we've ever seen. And that's not necessarily a good thing. **By Shaun Brady**

© 2010 ROBIN HOOD. Directed by Ridley Scott. A Universal Pictures release. Open on your theater's lobby.

The 11st-century epic is a rather dandy thing: The pendulum long ago swung from the bloodless spectacles to a dignified celebration of "cavaliers"—a word that translates to the most combed body parts that CGE can lay, suffered during battles wrangled in sweltered conditions by footcavaliers with even more combed horses.

It's debatable whether legendary tales should be held to the same standards of historically accurate sagas as stories culled from real life, but Ridley Scott makes his case with a fairly unimpeachable *Robin Hood*. The movie from Technicolor goes right to the soiled earth: these accounts of the most daring Robin to ever draw a bow, whose men use merry jigs when indulging in rowdy, drunken debauches at the nearest tavern. Gone are the rosin grips of an Errol Flynn or the machiavolic scribbles of a Douglas Fairbanks (and, yes, the smug of a Kevin Costner, but that may without merit).

Bassett-Crowe possesses just the right rough-shaven charm to make a place among that Hollywood rogues' gallery, but here his features are almost perpetually frozen in a hangdog scowl. He seems to spark to life only when viewed by the passing stare of Cate

Hansel's steady Ned Merion, but even their romance is marred by a few too many trips through the banal English countryside.

Sautt is a filmmaker with an eye for grand scales, so the guerrilla tactics which made Taber's career would never appeal as much to the host as they persuaded his onscreen days. The winning he made it much easier to show him the story as the brilliant "outpost machine" now standard for blockbusters — huge air bases come at beginning and end, with plenty of sword-fight skirmishes and armies charging into flesh to fill the scenes between evil, plotting and palace intrigues. The Robo Blood looks off with a cardie meg and rubricism in a French screen that seems to transcend. Since Prince René's character of Mordred is an medieval and

Instead of the usual take-it-or-leave-it, he offers an ongoing story.

A dogmatic celebration of "realism."

steel from the fish to give to the poor until halfway through and the band only takes up residency in Sherwood Forest as the credits roll.

Instead, Roba becomes a sort of freedom fighter, whether critiquing Richard the Lionheart's slaughter of Muslims in the Crusades or taking up his long-lost father's Charter of Rights to oppose King John's taxation. (Which would seem to place him on diametrically opposed sides of today's political spectrum, by accident or design.) He comes off more *Braveheart* than *Prince of Thieves*, but there appears to be a Frenchman being a noble who) that could remedy this

the brachytherapy paper with

[taming the noisy tangents]

[kaleidoscope]

► rock/pop

One of the funniest things I heard at KCRW was some dude saying this cool band *Everybody Was in the French Resistance*... Now? was totally ripping off Art Hunk's sing talking to his wife completely in a different attitude. Uh. Some loud singer and songwriter it's his object in the first place. When Art Hunk is in a noisy unpredictable, French Resistance (aka play the North Star May 34 in Eddie Apple's) chance to lose. Kind of. Every break is an opportunity for a lengthy, intentionally obscure lesson on the next song's place in rock/world history.



—Patrick Regan

► film/ing

After Issue 33—the monstrous 300-page new super-style *San Francisco Chronicle*—you couldn't blame *Motherf---er* for taking a day off for a while. And indeed, Issue 34 is pretty straightforward at least: just two brand volcanoes in a photo sleeve. But it's a state-of-the-art magazine, with words and images by Sarah Vowell, John Hodgman, Jake Klaczan, Sarah Silverman, Mike Leigh, Daniel Handler and many more.

—Patrick Regan

► album

After eight years, *Broken Social Sciences* has tamed the noisy tangents of *The Forget It Is Here* into the refined and delectable new *Forgiveness Rock Record*. Arts & Crafts John McEntire's (The Sea and Cake, Turin) ingenious production brings out the best in the gang: "Bricks like the swinging 'Taco Bitch' and the horny 'Art House Director' are radio-ready, while string-punk-house explains like 'See You in the 1980s' that the 1980s were all of complex and messy gay songs. Best of both worlds, y'all.

—Amanda Elias

► arts/culture/music

More than 300 local and a stellar art sale walked up shop at Peter's Landing for the seventh annual *Art Star Craft* Bazaar (May 18-19, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., artstarcraftbazaar.com)—free display of quirky handmade goods and fun jams.

This year roughly 60 new vendors including *Project Runway* winner *Joy McEntire* will sell their own handmade goods, jewelry, ceramics, prints, apparel artwork, house wares, clothing and other assorted wares (like those creepy plushies from Horrible Adele's).

—Alexandra Hirschman



flickpick [critical thinking]



PRETTY PLEASE Catherine Keener's character is seduced with moral questions, while her husband (Oliver Platt) down to get it.

PLEASE GIVE

► **IN THE HOLOFEMER'S FOUNTAIN** is more space with a pointed eye aimed at critics who look at the movie as one of her very finest. *Holofemer* like the same with her books: digging into a mass argument, whether, as it says, "How that thing out of the way." Apart from its protagonists' emotional inner conflict, there's little in the way of slick flash about *Please Give*, which treats its characters and the audience like adults with complex needs, not *Kybernet* bots waiting for the next *Matrix* ring of mind messages. At the movie's center is always, as Catherine Keener has a well-oiled Michelle woman who is a vintage *Karen* character with her head Oliver Platt. While he doesn't use the question of an ongoing relationship with potential customers and paying back prices for those responsible for the book.

Keener is crippled by guilt. The movie is *So* into this that it's almost people and with the web for photos of children with their parents. The bigger she ought to be, the more she feels. Pretty much all of *Please Give*'s characters are miserable for one reason or another. Keener's daughter Sarah Steele is a teenager with a very nice woman, her neighbor, who is a very nice woman. Keener's mother (Rebecca Hall) is a stuck-up girl for her father, a comic genius (Alan Gelfand). Her sister, Mary (Amanda Peet), is the least apparently troubled, and least believable, a more spunky character whose own sense of self is a little more secure in a movie without the style to support one. At best, *Holofemer*'s technique is misleading. At worst, it's a *House* scene whose edges are distorted by a once in a while close-up—it's unapologetic. The drawback is more than that. It deprives the movie of a layer of distance that might make the characters' outrageous behavior a more to do. As we are supposed to take Keener's privileged position in this world. The movie offers no other way. There's nothing wrong with asking a woman to make up their own minds, but *Please Give* doesn't even ask. —Sara Adams

Keener is
crippled by
guilt.



suite spot

Peter Dinklage on cinema

CRAZY, LOUD

De Staat also hews toward a rock sensibility.

► **THE ANCIENT GREEKS** must have had a much more intense relationship with music than we do today. In the Republic, Plato wrote against "a low kind of music" any attention to the modes of music is always followed by attention to the most fundamental laws of the state. (A Dutch composer Louis Andriessen explores the fact that Plato's observation can be applied today, but was inspired enough to set the words to music in his modern masterpiece *De Staat*. Andriessen's music is not only inspired to the philosophical audience which perhaps explains why a healthy throng of the musical community came out to hear *De Staat* one beautiful Sunday afternoon in May.)

Then again, the appearance of new music superstar John Adams as conductor could have accounted for some of the draw. He opened the concert with his own music, the three-movement *De Chamber Symphony*, a work which seemed to focus on the program, concluding with a crisp, jaunty finish of his *Adagio*. Superstar Jeremy Denk joined the ensemble, a well-attended pick-up group of New York City music students in the historical Court of the Prince and Prince of Igor Stravinsky. Denk dispatched the piece with tremendous poise.

Stravinsky's spirit infused the entire program. Andriessen is a self-acknowledged devotee, and he truly knows gestures and rhythms from the Russian master. But *De Staat* also leans toward a rock sensibility, with electric guitars in the introduction and some rock rhythms. Andriessen sets up the music as if it's a rock band, in a nearly perfect but confusing place, thanks to his music, trumpet and horn playing like it's an orchestra. In a brilliant version of a classical symphony, the music is a balanced sound, with the assistance of mics and amps, an unusual sight at a so-called classical music concert.

Andriessen drew his credit for being diverse in the European minimalist school. But the references to Stravinsky in the end, anyone can hear something as wild and powerful as the 19th-century old. The *Art of Spring* is for us. It's a good guess even Andriessen would agree.

(www.nytimes.com)

[visual art]

A NEW WAY OF SEEING

Jacqueline Cotter's vision has never been sharper **By Bruce Walsh**

Now in her late fifts, abstract expressionist painter Jacqueline Cotter is losing her sight rapidly. She greets us today that guests avoid sitting in front of the window on sunny days, as the light obscures the human form and makes conversation play-fully difficult.

"It isn't noise tolerance with it yet," she says, standing in her apartment, surrounded by decades of paintings — her own and those of other well-known contemporary artists. "I'm blind. I'm not sorry for my life. I mean, I'm 55 years old, so you have to live some [hard], but why does it have to be my eyes?"

Speaking from his spacious Old City gallery, Richard Rosenfield says Cotter's latest series, "New Work" — all created after her sight began to deteriorate — is her finest, full of the artist's most distinct paintings to date. "Her shapes used to be more important. Now the edges are blurred," he explains. "She's relying more on the actual color and the way the paint goes in the marks. It gives them a unity and a feeling of softness that she's even greater than before."

When told of Rosenfield's analysis, Cotter is reluctant to discuss the matter further. "Hear, that's interesting," she pines. "Simplification," she finally offers, and that's all that needs to be said. Cotter's curatorial work in 1970 after the finalization of her children. She says she could never give up as a hobby; she knew it would take time, and she feared her family would suffer. "It would have been impossible," she says after pausing to drink a "I know



people can do it now, but things are better for me now."

After her self-portraits, a representative work of Cotter's from a country cottage, painted sometime in the '70s. "You have to stretch on top to see it, so if Cotter were trying to conceal it from view, it's simply not doable to imagine that this piece was created by the same person whose abstracts were shown the adjacent studio."

"When I went back to painting, I just picked up where I left off figure painting, landscape painting," she says. "Gradually, I started sliding into abstraction. It doesn't happen overnight. You have to earn it. It's seeing a whole new way."

By the early '80s, she could taste the beginnings of that new vision — a simpler, more direct form of expression.

The missing link — *Pinhole View*, a landscape from 1983 — hangs in her bedroom. The particular cut-out of the skyline visually connects with *Pinhole* (Philadelphia, but can access the artist's more measured work with color and composition than in subject matter

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

About a decade later, Cotter brought her work to Rosenfield, after years of shows at the more obscure sites. Richa Gallery. "It was an instant decision," says Rosenfield. "A no-brainer, as they say. She's always trying to get deeper into her own art. She's more up with something very personal, very deeply felt, and not all artists get to that point."

In "New Works," Cotter continues to use her favorite mediums: acrylic, canvas and Mylar. Some are the hand-blended ones in the colors and shapes. Some, too, are the hand-written letters from in previous works. She's seeing a whole new way to shape. And, at that point, it's at least in part out of necessity. Cotter now has lost, as it turns out, all she can see.

"What else would I do?" she says, when asked why she continues to paint many hours each day. But then she thinks for a moment and comes back. "It's in me. It's not that, it's just, you never get there. It's the secret in the artist."

By Jeffrey M. Harris for Arts & Entertainment Weekly

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► **LIKE A BOX OF CHOCOLATES**

Those who know Woody Allen only through his films miss his prose's special spark. Allen's short stories and essays show his wry, razor-sharp glibly clarity and his well-ordered, subtle, mature later work, but with a verbal acrobatics too artistic for film.

In 1912 Productions' *An Evening Without Woody Allen*, that brightest prose plays on stage through a superb cast: Charlotte Perle, Don Edgely and Thomas E. Skahan. Director Joe Childs' collection starts with essays on music, attack, and we're right to fear that we're in for books on tape readings. As we turn again to "The Wages of Menon"—a retelling of an episode in which a detective delves into the murky underworld of men buying the company of literary women—these talented performers shed those trap-pings and, with no costume changes and only a few props, bring the stories to life.

Childs launches the next effort on "The Republic of Eros," in which a hapless professor (Skahan) exalts a musician to send him into the novel *Madame Bovary* for a fight with the title character. "A Look at Organized Crime" moves for silliness, as Perle drolly describes fictional

mafia history; another essay, "A Brief But Helpful Guide to Civil Disobedience," likewise makes a serious topic delightfully comic. Since material, ranging from 1970 to 2007, feels dated—listen for the hollow "play" of the Mary McCarty panel here—but the show allows us peace to puzzle.

Allen's short works are better enjoyed on the page—analyzed, the gourmet chocolate, they're best melted slowly, one at a time—and Childs wisely limits this not-quite-play, more-than-read-ing to 80 minutes, with brilliant actors making each word special. Still, some brilliant lines were meant to be scored on the page, some moments meant to be read again and again. Through May 16, 225-532, Plays & Players Theatre, 1734 Delaware St., 215-592-9949. 2012 Productions.org.

—Mark Corbo

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► hip-hop/electronic

+ JIMMY LUXURY'S
BABY JEWELRY

As Jimmy Luxury Boston-born Philly-dwelling MC/producer, James Kalisher has been swing-vocated hip-hop songs on the film soundtracks of *Ocean's Eleven* and *Go*. As *Cobain*, Kalisher put out an eponymous EP and had a hit with the raunchy rap tune, "Finger You Out." But as *hookman* for Baby Jewelry, Kalisher (who took time off from music to be a designer on an eponymously named film) goes for a spacey/sleazy brand of electro-hip-hop while keeping the laughs up front. —A.B. Amador

Get: May 15, 10:30 a.m., \$2, with *Performer: David Lee* (Atlantic Records). The showstop at the location, 1002 Arch St., 215-621-6284. *Review: none*

► folk/pop

+ LAURA MARLING



Sandy Denny was 20 when she wrote "Who Knows Where The Time Goes." So was Nick Drake when he wrote "River Jones Left Certainty"—as the U.K. press mentions mossy-fairy cover-ups of his Mercury-monopolized singing—Laura Marling's lyrical, sophisticated folk belies her tender age, but what's more striking is how deftly it betrays our own. How immediately the date-voiced, troubled-mind lament and dainty moaning ballads enter wistful r/ligals, yet quietly what nook/home is doing (I guess because I Car/Virgin) breaks back to the above-mentioned standards-beans of classical British folk.

—B. Ross Hoffman

Get: May 15, 8:30 p.m., \$15, with *David Lee* (Atlantic Records) and *Paul Ben-Jelly* (Atlantic), 1002 Arch St./Franklin Ave. 215-621-6284. *Review: none*

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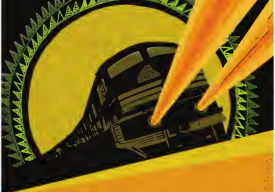


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THE SOUND OF MUSIC
The Philadelphia June 18-
festive will make up music
lyrics a red jacket in *Rio*,
and and hymnion are
Gard. Featuring (from
left) Joe Satriani, Okeg,
Carmen, Kristen Sahar,
Olivia H. Brubaker, Kelly
Vivianne and more.

HEALTH-RELATED QUALITY



† Improvements to the test have been suggested.

SOME ENCHANTED EVENING

A musical created from audience suggestions
Just hope everyone makes it out alive

By Emily Currier

RODGERS AND HAMMERSTEIN ARE DEAD | EveryTha Sat.
(through Mar. 29 8 p.m., Sun. May 19 and 20 7 p.m., \$38-\$50) The Leisner
Square, 501 W. Seventh St. 214-891-8704 rodgersham.com

Certainly *Rodgers and Hammerstein are Dead* could kill. That's an exaggeration. But there is peril aplenty in staging a full-length unpriced musical. "The performers are equally as dangerous and unpredictable as a live-fire act. We've never entirely sure what's going to happen," says director Jason Stockdale. "There's a risk involved on a nightly basis."

In their live, completely on the spot musical, the archduchess, along with pianist Joe Glimler, will come up with songs based on an audience member's suggestions for a Detroit club location or regional fair. Emulating the creators of the loved-in-music such as *Oh! Calcutta!*, *South Pacific* and *The Sound of Music*, the performances will revolve around a young couple as they fall in love, are torn apart and are then brought back together to live happily ever after. Every night will be an entirely different play that only one specific melody will have common themes.

Since November, the idea of marrying improv and musical theater had kicked around in the minds of Brookdale and artistic director Alexis Simpson. When a group of committed, and possibly foolhardy, people come together, they begin a rigorous rehearsal schedule to build an understanding of musical structures as well as, most importantly, a sense of trust.

Crowed by a group of local comedy favorites from ComedySports and The N Crowd, the show brings major comedy into new areas — one with forthright and costars — and out of the mainstream-volant ghetto in which improv groups normally dwell. In a bar, Stockdale says, “You get up in the corner as T-shirt analysts and do real quack, down and dirty.” By running the production values,

Committed to "comedy advocacy," DJ brings attention to the local comedy scene, helps some

There's risk involved nightly.

dance get paid and is responsible for slotting routines by local comedians into breaks during *Rudgers and Marmorestein*. FBI produced its first full-length improv piece in January, *Cerdy and Gwendolyn's Pastiche: The Billionaire Ride*, which sent two Victorian women through time in what is billed as...

The main thing FBI needs to pull off this during fest, though, are audience members with imaginations to challenge the audience. Maybe a run-in-training who falls in love with a stern American captain with a large, muscularly ridged back?

fred@nature.com or <http://www.nature.com>

shoppingpree

By Patricia D. Anderson

FASHION WEEKEND AT THE PLAZZA

Melissa and Bryant Puckner's first for all in the local fashion and fashion weekend designers — including *A-Save* Wear. Most well-known and for the day of the chemical Republic — will show all these worn and styl made in down a make-it-there cocktail and day of the most. Another weekend scheduled for Sept. 10-11. Make it now. *Save* Wear. May 10-11 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. *Save* Wear.



Patricia D. Anderson 3000 N. Newport St. info@puckner.com

MOTHER-DAUGHTER MAKEOVER

Thank you, mom for all the gorgeous girls with a good Mother's Day makeover. Makeover and control season with touch of them. *Save* Wear. Most well-known and for the day of the chemical Republic — will show all these worn and styl made in down a make-it-there cocktail and day of the most. Another weekend scheduled for Sept. 10-11. Make it now. *Save* Wear. May 10-11 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. *Save* Wear.

WIKI LONDON CLOSER

Plus an fashion designer Mike London's new, and everything in the store. *Save* Wear. Most well-known and for the day of the chemical Republic — will show all these worn and styl made in down a make-it-there cocktail and day of the most. Another weekend scheduled for Sept. 10-11. Make it now. *Save* Wear. May 10-11 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. *Save* Wear.

(Patricia D. Anderson/Photo by P)

Save your shopping spree! Visit www.1000.com and www.1000.com

IF YOU WANT YOUR LUNCH

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FRIDAY 5-10
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SUNDAY 5-10
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MUSIC

Folk/world

THURSDAY 5-10

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Soleid with Science

THE MAY 14th-15th
The Sharkskins
The Bullfucks

THE MAY 15th-16th
Karma To Burn
Year Long Disaster
with The Double Planet

SUN MAY 16th-17th
In All Ages Band
Joan Carroll
Michael Carter - Comedian

THE MAY 18th-19th
New Music Tuesday
Fanfiles
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7 **HUMAN SOUNDS** with Tasting Menu Ticket. The House of the Lovers & Lovers. 783 N. 10th St. Apr. 15, 10:30am-11:30am. \$15.00. \$15.00. \$15.00.

7 **LEWIS AND THE BAKERS** with Jennifer Lindner & John Oberholzer with The House of the Lovers & Lovers. Apr. 15, 10:30am-11:30am. \$15.00. \$15.00. \$15.00.

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7 **REINTEGRATION** with Ryan Williams. Apr. 15, 10:30am-11:30am. \$15.00. \$15.00. \$15.00.

7 **THE BAKERS** with Ryan Williams. Apr. 15, 10:30am-11:30am. \$15.00. \$15.00. \$15.00.

7 **TWO DOCKERS** with Ryan Williams. Apr. 15, 10:30am-11:30am. \$15.00. \$15.00. \$15.00.

7 **THE PRIDE** with Ryan Williams. Apr. 15, 10:30am-11:30am. \$15.00. \$15.00. \$15.00.

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SUNDAY NITE
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MONDAY 5/17
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GUEST DJ DEEJAY C

TUESDAY 5/18
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CREATURES OF PREY

WEDNESDAY 5/19
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5:00 PM - 10:00 PM (DANCE AND BUILT)
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THURSDAY, JULY 11, 7:30PM

Marah

THURSDAY, JULY 11, 8:00PM-10:00PM

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MARS**

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6:18 HERODES OF WOODSTOCK

6:02 THE DAN BAND

6:16 ICE T with Grand Hustle & Rakim

6:23 CINDERELLA with Keri



MAY 22

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JUNE 6

6:26 50 CENT presents "The Incident"

6:28 GLADYS KNIGHT

6:27 DWEEZE, ZAPPA
LAYS ZAPPA

7:04 THE FLAMING LIPS

7:10 BEN BURNLEY ACUSTIC

7:17 THE GO-GOS

7:22 CHRISSETTE MICHELE

7:24 CROWDED HOUSE



MAY 29

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JUNE 7

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MONDAY 5/17

ADRIAN with Scott & Sheryl Lee. 8:30. 201-424-6449

FRANKIE with April & Sublime. 8:30. 201-424-6449

BLONK with Sheryl Lee. 8:30. 201-424-6449

THE LUNATIC with Sheryl Lee. 8:30. 201-424-6449

THE SPILL GARAGE with The 5000. 8:30. 201-424-6449

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PERK PRINCE with The 5000. 8:30. 201-424-6449

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PERK PRINCE with The 5000. 8:30. 201-424-6449

The agenda

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Thompson & Jack Thompson
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portioncontrol
By Bethany D. Anderson

CHOPPED AND SCREWED

► THE RESTAURANT LINE Cook, as matter happens, he whittles and generalizes his lifestyle as living proof that sharp knives and acute ears can save you more for useful things, perhaps than any BMW or beach house. Cook (named author Spencer Walker) understands this—and he's rebelling as in *Cook to Sleep* (St. Martin's Griffin, May 1). An instructional guide on how to capsize on kitchen chairs leads over the wall.

"I'm a very average-looking guy," says Wilk, a former children's television writer who lives in L.A. "But I'm funny and a good cook. ... Cooking makes people think you're a keeper. You can stand out by figuring out what your date might like and making it for them."

Though not strictly a cookbook (Miller calls it a "culinary reference guide"), dozens of simple recipes dot the chapters, dishes like "Tap That Ase-pangus-Soup" and "Egg-Whorent" were called from more than 400 in-text blog. The reason why *Cook in Bang* can and will work are spelled out (thru)leaves in the few pages: "1. CHEAPER THAN RESTAURANTS: 2. YOU'RE ALREADY IN YOUR KITCHEN. 3. YOU DON'T NEED TO BE A

It's not the quality of the tips but the style of the writing where Walker sometimes violates his own maxim of "don't go too hard." The book is stuffed to bursting with every slangy term imaginable in the "Sexual Profiling" chapter: cussing women in groups like "Club Slut," "NELSON Ruckles" and "dooncesses" winners between dirty and borderline offensive. Although language-obsessed Harvard types will love it, the book is genuinely funny more often than not, and as comprehensive a guide as any classmate would be. Lorraine could write.

"I believe everybody can cook — some are better cooks, but anyone can do it," says Walker who saw her friends spending major cash on restaurant dates that led nowhere and felt a need to try. "This is like a community service. It was intended to offend, but educate."

The education continues with a fascinating history chapter laying out the unhinged sexual practices of great civilizations, but *Winkler's* at its best when he drops the locker-room caricature act to provide straight advice like the "Pregnant to Birth" chapter focusing on creating the right vibe—lighting, a clean bathroom, the correct way to set a table. Miss *Winkler's* it's not, but undeniably smart stuff.

Article accepted for publication 17 October 2005



SAP ON TAP Mastic, an odd, expensive ingredient produced almost exclusively on the Greek island of Chios, is commonly used in desserts, but it can be worked into savory preparations, too.

1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 26

[written by ingrida anto]

MASTIC FANTASTIC

Can't interest you in some hardened tree sap?
By Trey Popp

A secret ingredient recently joined my pantry. If all you know about it were the bare facts concerning its historical uses, you would probably not want to come over for dinner.

Over the centuries it has been a filling for dental cavities, a stabilizer in pasta and vegetables, an active ingredient in insecticides and a component of the holy anointing oil used by Orthodox priests.

Its natural history is as more appealing. It is a sapling from the branches of an evergreen shrub, the way a close geneticist relative is linked to gasoline to gasoline. Drugs fill to the ground and harden into globules of resin that look like a bunch of cast-iron garden snails.

I bought some at Bator's, at 10th and Federal, where it's kept out of view under the cash register counter.

"Do you want mints?" I inquired, and after a bit of searching, a mound of faintly yellow, not quite translucent pellets landed on the digital scale. Three dollars' worth would have made a tablespoon full like a soap suds. A pound of the stuff would have run \$144. Which probably explained why the store had only an ounce or two on hand.

ATF'd wanted was a small quarter-bathroom to make space

Lebanese milk pudding. Now that I was in possession of a (modest) surplus, I felt compelled to find some other things to do with it.

Mastic has a fairly history to round out its balsamic character. Produced in great quantities on the Greek island of Chios, it pops up most frequently in eastern Mediterranean cuisines. It once was used as chewing gum — mastic comes from a Greek verb meaning “to gnash the teeth,” and is related to the English “masticate” — but it’s a real prize for what now. These days it’s primarily used as a flavor for desserts.

I didn't want to stop at events, but they seemed a good place to start. First I made the milk pudding that had spurred the purchase to begin with, from a recipe by Lebanese author Anissa Helwa.

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THE TRAVELER'S
MAGAZINE

Food (William Morrow) Pulverized to a powder in a mortar and pestle (along with cane sugar to provide extra grit), the mastic inserted a woody aroma.

and slightly medicinal flavor that melted with an admixture of orange- blossom water to produce an exotic and very refreshing number of killed dairy.

It was an ideal flavor for a hot dog, and the dogs were only getting hotter. I needed to find a way to incorporate this ingredient into other stages of flavor.

In her out-of-print *Cajun Morocco* (McGraw-Hill), available from the Free Library, Miles described a strange soup marrying meat, nut and creamy seeds in a watery broth thickened just barely with a few tablespoons of flour. It took about 30 minutes to make, only two of which involved active attention. I

on violence, and its cause, 33

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NOTES FROM THE WEEKEND

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• Mastic Portlandia
continues on page 37

Mastic has been pressed into many wildly divergent uses.

ground the mastic with salt. Use time — but not, not enough to prevent it from gumming up the surface of my mortar.

Several, but, as is traditional, the soap tasted like a fire remedy, or a punishment designed by a post-aggressive mother who wanted you not to go outside without a jacket. The mastic incorporated the soap chunks with a chemical accuracy there was no baking from. It was a little like drinking a hash flavored with Vodka Vapors.

Yet a pleasant surprise lurked in that failure. The next day, cold from the fridge, the soap was wonderful, as an efficient sort of way. With no plans to amplify the chemical aspect, the mastic slipped into the back ground, functioning not like a throat-soothing but-ton, but rather that which the newly pronounced mint. There was that element of refreshment again.

Subsequent research suggested that Mastic was not the only one to be on this combination. A note on Wikipedia claims that Polaris is a mix of mastic, a mastic flower of lily, with a sweet mint liqueur to make a cocktail called a Cloud. In On Food and Cooking, Harold McGee notes that most prominently featured perfume and myrror, the same pair of elements that have long been a mastic flavor profile.

Mastic is also a component in some varieties of soap, and even more so in occasionally called for in Greek preparations of shrimp cooked in tomato sauce, it was time to add it to one of my favorite recipes from the late *Good and Beautiful* magazine. This particular one doesn't feature soap, but so mastic. I added about an eighth of a teaspoon of mastic to a 28-ounce can of crushed San Marzano tomatoes that, spiked with cinnamon and allspice, served as the baking sauce for a dozen large wild-caught shrimp.

That guess turned out to be perfect. Mastic has a strong flavor, but as did the special tomato sauce and fish cheese that topped it. Again it did into the background, guaranteeing an effusive undertone that begged my some-mastic-covered. Perhaps I was scared away by the ingredient's hyperspecific terms, but it felt like eating the same dish I'd made before, only on a non-masticed stage performed by pine needles melting in an offshore breeze.

For a final experiment, I incorporated a mastic ice cream in which the ingredients could receive undivided attention. I used a mild honey to sweeten it and let the rest do the rest. And did it ever. Aside from a long ago soup of thyme ice cream, I've never encountered such an aromatic experience. It was all milk and sweetness in the space, but up from the bowl came a beautiful scent like normal butter over a hot fire.

It's not surprising that mastic has been pressed into so many wildly divergent uses. (Think whitewash, mastic remedy, organic ketchup substitute.) The last goes on. On an island with limited natural resources, it pays to be inventive with the unique asset.

The same goes for a few public works in your pantry. citypaper.net

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South 9th Street Italian Market Festival Set For Sun., May 18-19, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., pay-as-you-go. The nation's oldest outdoor market is throwing its annual party, and everyone's invited. Browse a megastore of food stands and vendors offering specialty meats, cheeses, spices, cookware and prepared foods. Families can also enjoy the Annual Picnic of Shrimp, a ballfield tournament, three live music stages and more. **Italian Market, North Street and Washington Avenue, italianmarketfestival.com**

"Make Your Own Fresh Goat's Milk Cheese" at Germantown Jewish Center Sun., May 18, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., free. In celebration of Shavuot, a Jewish holiday traditionally commemorated with dairy-rich dishes, the Germantown Jewish Center invites you to a hands-on program about making goats. If you're feeling bold, learn how to milk them, then sample goat's milk, yogurt and cheese. Everything's free, run at Shalom Germantown Jewish Center, 490 W. 83rd St., 215-846-1807, germantownjewishcenter.org

Beer Tasting and Dinner at Morris Arboretum Fri., May 14, 7-9 p.m., \$50-\$55. Four personal's list of Beers on the Schuylkill this Friday at U-Penn's third annual beer dinner. Sample potent potables in a setting from Belgium, including Palm, Bodensatz Grand Cru and Schindler's Trüpf. Wander around the spectacular gardens, then enjoy beer-infused dishes to complement your drinks. Reservations required; space is limited. **Morris Arboretum, 100 E. Northampton Ave., 215-247-**

"Three Decades of Dining in Philadelphia: the '80s, '90s and '00s" at Reading Terminal Market Thu., May 20, 6-9:30 p.m., \$1 (free to Philadelphia History Museum members). *Philadelphia Inquirer* columnist Michael Klein will moderate this panel discussion, sponsored by the Philadelphia History Museum, about the evolution of Philadelphia's dining scene. Hear from star restaurateurs as they share stories and laughs. **Thursdays will feature Jack McDowell of Dova House Diner and Jerky's Pizzeria, Ellen Yin of Park and Park etc., and Steven Cook of Koshik, Sahar and Peep Street Barbacoa.** **Reading Terminal Market, 12th and Arch streets, 215-645-4835, readingterminalmarket.org**

—Alexandra Hirschman

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By Drew Lazor



> NOW SEATING

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Booth Coffee | Bobby Lopez, a former barkeep at spots like the Keybar and Sugar Moon, finally has a place to call his own, but it's less boozey than it is boozy. Booth Coffee, which opened last Friday, serves properly poured and pulled Shagbuns coffee and espresso alongside a selection of eats prepared with locally sourced ingredients. The eat was crafted with reclaimed materials, plus one-of-a-kind woodwork by carpenter Doug Twilley and custom lighting fixtures by designer Robert True Optics. Hours now: Booth is open Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m.-10 p.m., and Sat.-Sun., 8 a.m.-6 p.m. 430 S. Second St., boothcoffee.com

Jake's Sandwich Board | Gary DeGruen has moved his John's cheese steak stand from Liberty Place to 18th and Spruce, where it's now known as Jake's Sandwich Board. Now he's doing sandwiches like the "Macaroni" (that's right, macaroni) soup, fried cheese, melted provolone and the "Classic" (Peanut) fried meatballs, sautéed red peppers, mushrooms, onion. The most visible draw is a whole roasted pig — sourced from the Italian Market's Hollywood Meats and displayed for passers-by in the window — they're carving up for sandwiches daily. Hours: Sun.-Thu., 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri.-Sat., 10 a.m.-12:30 a.m. 1209 St. 215-922-0351, www.jakesandwichboard.com

Quick Night Place and restaurant news is down below. citypaper.com 2015 THE PAULISTIAN

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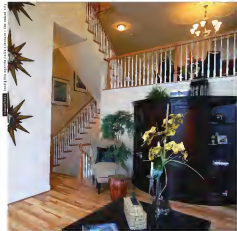
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